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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/812,118	03/16/2001	Gustavo R. Rivera	COVA-001/00US	3308

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COOLEY GODWARD LLP
ATTN: PATENT GROUP
11951 FREEDOM DRIVE, SUITE 1700
ONE FREEDOM SQUARE- RESTON TOWN CENTER
RESTON, VA 20190-5061

EXAMINER

CUFF, MICHAEL A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3627

DATE MAILED: 12/30/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/812,118

Applicant(s)

RIVERA ET AL.

Examiner

Michael Cuff

Art Unit

3627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 July 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Schroeder et al. (US 2002/0099735).

Schroeder et al. shows, figure 4, a system and method for conducting electronic commerce. The system shows a method of processing data exchanged between a first trading partner and a second trading partner is disclosed that includes receiving a first data file from the first trading partner, the first data file having a first file format (destination-native-format) and being an electronic representation of at least one document. The method further includes translating the received first data file into at least one second data file (neutral format) having an XML file format and transforming each of the at least one second data files into a normalized third data file having an XML file format, wherein the third data file is normalized according to a data format associated with the second trading partner (originating-native-format). The data file can be translated to any number of different formats without referring back to the source data file. Thus, various embodiments of the present invention accept a data file from

Art Unit: 3627

one company ("Sending Company"), regardless of the format used by the Sending Company. Within that data file may be several documents (e.g., purchase orders) (quantity identifier inherent) relating to a number of different transactions. Each document may be destined for a different company ("Receiving Company"). Various embodiments of the present invention also offer additional advantages in the way the data is delivered and presented to the Receiving Company. (page 1, second column)

The system includes a library of maps (translation maps) from which the user can choose including the common formats that the system will need to accept from the different businesses. (page 3, first column) The system portal 510 may be configured to automatically notify (acknowledgement) the sender or receiver of the document when certain business conditions are met. (page 8, first column) The standard rules used by rules engine 540 perform the following common operations: data type checking, bounds checking, value mapping, data transformation, and compliance checking. Data type checking includes validating (verifying) the data type of the element (e.g. date/time, numeric, string, etc.) and the precision/scale (for numeric data) or maximum length (for strings). (page 7, first column) The normalized XML document enables both Sending and Receiving Parties to view the data using a standard web browser or other network graphical user interface. Additionally, the normalized XML document may be easily warehoused as an XML file. The normalized XML document may also be easily analyzed using a centralized set of business rules easily applied to XML files.

Translating the document into XML also maintains the integrity of the original source data that may be lost in conventional EDI translation products. The extensibility of XML

Art Unit: 3627

also allows a system host (host applications) or customer to extend XML data formats without adversely affecting historical data entered using legacy XML data formats.

(page 5, first column). Tier 1 is considered to be back-end and tier 2 is considered to be non-back-end.


Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Chehade et al., Gilles, and Reeder show translation systems of interest.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Cuff whose telephone number is (703) 308-0610. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Olszewski can be reached on (703) 308-5183. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9326.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

 12/12/03
Michael Cuff
December 12, 2003